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THE URBAN DISTRICT OF WIMBORNE MINSTER

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR..... 1951

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THE URBAN DISTRICT OF WIMBORNE MINSTER

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: -

Councillor C.H. Cowdry

VICE-CHAIRMAN: -

Councillor H.C. Martin Harvey.

COUNCILLORS: -

S.C. Cobb.

R.W.E. Cribb.

F.O. Day.

W.T. Elcock.

Group Capt. A.E. Lewis Roberts.

K.B.J. Joyner.

Dr. E. Markby.

F.W.J. Moore.

Miss M.C. Richards.

W.T. Topp.



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH: - J.B.M. Mayes, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR with combined duties as SURVEYOR:-

A.H.E. Gellender. M.R.S.I.

Public Health Department,
Civic Centre,
Winborne.

TO:-

The Chairman and Councillors of the Winborne Minster Urban District Council:-

The Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District is submitted for your information and consideration.

The Report is presented as follows:-

- A. Vital Statistics.
- B. General provisions of Health Services for the Area.
- C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.
 - 1. Water.
 - 2. Sewerage.
 - 3. Refuse collection and Salvage.
 - 4. Rodent Control.
 - 5. Nuisances.
- D. Housing.
- E. Factories and Workshops.
- F. Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- G. Mass Radiography.
- H. Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and members of the General Purposes Committee for their kindness and consideration.

I have much appreciated the help and co-operation given to me by the Staff of the Public Health Department, officials in other departments and by my professional colleagues in practice in the area.

J.B.M. Mayes.

JULY 1952.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SECTION AGENERAL STATISTICS.

1. Area of District.....653 acres.
 2. Population estimated by Registrar General,
at 30th June, 1951.....4559
 3. Total number of inhabited houses as at
31st December, 1951.....1415
 4. Rateable value at 1st April, 1951.....£33, 713
Sum represented by penny rate.....£ 132.14.1
-

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

| <u>LIVE BIRTHS</u> | <u>Total</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Total registered..... | 50 | 27 | 23 |
| Legitimate..... | 47 | 25 | 22 |
| Illegitimate..... | 3 | 2 | 1 |

| <u>STILLBIRTHS</u> | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|
| Total registered..... | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Legitimate..... | 1 | - | 1 |
| Illegitimate..... | 1 | 1 | - |

| <u>DEATHS</u> | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|
| Total registered..... | 70 | 30 | 40 |

| <u>INFANT MORTALITY</u> | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Deaths of infants under one year of age:- | | | |
| Total registered..... | 1 | 1 | - |
| Legitimate..... | 1 | 1 | - |
| Illegitimate..... | - | - | - |

Comparative Statistics
(where available)

| | <u>Wimborne</u> | <u>England & Wales.</u> |
|--|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated home population..... | 10.97 | 15.5 |
| Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 home population..... | 0.44. | 0.36 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 estimated home population..... | 15.35 | 12.5 |
| Death Rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 related live births..... | 20 | 29.6. |

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1951
(Supplied by the Registrar General)

| | <u>CAUSE</u> | <u>M</u> | <u>F</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
|-----|---|----------|----------|--------------|
| 1. | Cancer..... | 4 | 8 | 12 |
| 2. | Vascular lesions of the nervous system..... | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| 3. | Hypertension with Heart Disease..... | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 4. | Coronary disease..... | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 5. | Other heart disease..... | 4 | 7 | 11 |
| 6. | Other circulatory disease..... | 7 | 10 | 17 |
| 7. | Influenza..... | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 8. | Bronchitis..... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 9. | Pneumonia..... | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 10. | Ulcer of stomach or duodenum.... | - | - | - |
| 11. | Gastroenteritis..... | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 12. | Motor vehicle accidents..... | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 13. | All other causes..... | 5 | 2 | 7 |

TOTAL.....30 40 70

COMMENTS ON THE VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS

Slightly fewer children were born this year compared with 1950 and 1949. 50 in 1951, 63 in 1950, 75 in 1949. The number of stillbirths remained a low figure of two.

The Crude Birth Rate was 10.97 per 1,000 estimated home population. By applying the comparability factor of 1.15, the standardised birth rate was 12.61.

DEATHS

Slightly fewer persons died in 1951 compared with 1950, 70 in 1951, 79 in 1950, 52 in 1949. Of the 70, 30 were males and 40 females. 48 were over 70 years of age.

The crude death rate was 15.35 per 1,000 estimated home population. By applying the comparability factor of 0.71, the standardised death rate was 10.90.

The comparability factor is worked out for each district by the Registrar General. The purpose of this factor is to level out differences of age and sex constitution of the population of the various districts and enables more accurate comparisons to be made of birth and death rates in other areas.

There were no deaths from diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, scarlet fever, meningococcal infection, nor from poliomyelitis. There were no maternal deaths.

In 1951, one child died under one year of age compared with two in 1950 and three in 1949

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES.

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

The Public Health Laboratory service at Boscombe has given the district generous service. The Laboratory undertakes the bacteriological examination of water, milk, ice cream and other foods. It also examines specimens for diagnosis in the case of infectious, or suspected infectious diseases.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service of the district is under the jurisdiction of the Dorset County Council, operating day and night from the Civic Centre.

WELFARE CENTRE

The Dorset County Council provide an Infant Welfare Centre at the Women's Institute Hall.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The Home Help Service has continued through the year under the jurisdiction of the Dorset County Council.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

The Dorset County Council provide an Ante-Natal Clinic at the Women's Institute Hall.

SECTION C SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER SUPPLY

The Bournemouth Water Company is the statutory water undertaker for the area. The majority of the water is derived from a deep well situated at Walford, near Wimborne. It is chlorinated and softened.

8 samples of main water taken for bacteriological analysis have given highly satisfactory results.

At the beginning of the year, 45 occupied premises used water from 23 shallow wells. These wells were sampled:-

10 wells gave satisfactory results.

13 wells gave suspicious or unsatisfactory results.

On further sampling the wells that were satisfactory, seven gave good results. These wells will continue to be sampled in various weather and seasons. Should they give unsatisfactory results, steps will be taken to ensure the properties have a pure water supply.

Number of wells voluntarily discontinued..... 2.

Number of wells discontinued resulting from
informal notices..... 9.

Number of wells where owner's have not
complied with informal notices but not refused
to comply..... 5.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

In Wimborne, on the 4th July, 1951, the Ministry of Health held a Public Inquiry into the Council's proposals for a joint sewerage scheme for Wimborne and a few parishes of neighbouring authorities. In view of the high capital cost, the scheme was not approved in the form presented. The Ministry considered Wimborne should have a modified scheme with a local sewage disposal works.

CESSPOOLS AND SEPTIC TANKS

The Council undertake to empty these free of charge once in three months and the number emptied during 1951 was 287.

PAIL CLOSETS.

There are 775 properties served by pail closets. These are emptied twice a week by the Council's workmen. There are four food premises and seventeen houses through which these pails have to be carried.

The sewage collected is taken three and a half miles to Ferndown, deposited in deep pits and covered with soil after the contents have settled.

3. REFUSE COLLECTION AND SALVAGE.

Weekly collections are made by the Council and the refuse is disposed of by incineration at Poole.

. During the year 74 tons of paper and books were collected and sold.

4. RODENT CONTROL

Summary of the Rodent Operator's work for the year.

| | <u>Private Premises.</u> | <u>Council Premises.</u> | <u>Business Premises.</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Total number of visits by Staff..... | 204 | 7 | 151 | 362 |
| Premises inspected:- | | | | |
| (a) on complaint..... | 14 | 2 | 6 | 22 |
| (b) on survey..... | 190 | - | 45 | 235 |
| Total number of premises .. found infested:- | | | | |
| (a) on complaint..... | 15 | 2 | 8 | 25 |
| (b) on survey..... | 30 | - | 10 | 40 |
| Number of premises treated. | 14 | 2 | 6 | 22 |
| Number of premises cleared. | 12 | 2 | 5 | 19 |
| Retreated and cleared..... | 2 | - | 1 | 3 |
| Pre-baits laid..... | 80 | 1 | 24 | 105 |
| Poison baits laid..... | 14 | 1 | 7 | 22 |
| Post-baits laid..... | 80 | 10 | 19 | 109 |
| Estimated number of rats destroyed..... | 118 | 80 | 106 | 304 |
| Number of bodies recovered. | 106 | 10 | 80 | 196 |
| <u>Infestation of Mice</u> | | | | |
| Number of complaints received. | 6 | - | 7 | 13 |
| Number of premises treated. | 6 | - | 7 | 13 |
| Number of premises cleared. | 5 | - | 5 | 10 |

5. NUISANCES

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of complaints received..... | 13 |
| Number remedied by informal notices..... | 13 |

SECTION DH O U S I N G.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number of Council Houses completed pre-war..... | 122 |
| Number of Council Houses completed post-war..... | 94 |
| Number of Council Houses constructed and completed in 1951.. | 6 |
| Private Enterprise..... | 1 |
| Number of Council bungalows under construction but not completed by December, 1951..... | 16 |

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

An unregistered Common Lodging House existed in the town. The owner could not comply with the requirements of the Public Health Act, therefore the premises could not be licenced and the owner gave an undertaking not to keep a Common Lodging House.

SECTION EFACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

The number of factories registered..... 45

The number of inspections..... 28

The Factories Act 1937 - PART ONE OF THE ACT

| | <u>Number on</u> <u>Register.</u> | <u>Inspections.</u> |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Factories in which no mechanical power is used. | 14 | 4 |
| 2. Factories in which mechanical power is used.. | 31 | 24 |
| 3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (ex- cluding outworkers' premises) | Nil | Nil |

OUTWORKERS

During the year two outworkers were employed in the district.
No infectious disease occurred in either of the premises where
these outworkers resided.

SECTION FINSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES.

The survey of Food Premises in the town has been continued. The majority of the premises are satisfactory. A real effort has been made by the shopkeepers to bring the others to the required standard.

ICE CREAM PREMISES

Number of Registered Ice Cream Premises..... 16

16 registered premises have running hot and cold water for the use of the shop assistants. This year constant hot water has been installed in four of the premises.

Samples taken..... 54

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| Provisional Grade 1..... | 44 |
| Grade 2..... | 7 |
| Grade 3..... | 2 |
| Grade 4..... | 1 |

PROVISIONAL GRADES OF ICE CREAMPROVISIONAL
GRADETime taken to reduce
methylene blue.

1

4½ hours or more.

2

2½ - 4 hours.

3

½ - 2 hours

4

0

NOTE :-

Judgement should be based on a series of samples. It is suggested that over a six-monthly period, 50 per cent of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80 per cent into Grades 1 and 2, not more than 20 per cent into Grade 3, and none into Grade 4.

FOOD PREMISES

Twenty other premises have been visited where cakes, bread, meat or fish are sold. Seventeen have running hot and cold water, three premises selling meat or fish have gas coppers. This year, constant hot water has been installed in nine of the premises.

MILK AND DAIRIES' REGULATIONS 1949

Two Dairies are registered in the area.

Dealers' Licences

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Tuberculin tested..... | 2 |
| Pasteurised..... | 1 |

Supplementary Licences.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Tuberculin tested..... | 1 |
| Pasteurised..... | 1 |

The Sampling Officers of the County Council and the Sanitary Inspector have taken twenty routine samples of milk from distributors supplying the area.

Non-designated Milk

16 samples were taken, 13 samples were satisfactory, 3 unsatisfactory.

Tuberculin tested Milk

1 sample taken, which was satisfactory.

Pasteurised Milk

Three samples taken which were all satisfactory.

METHYLENE BLUE TEST

The Public Health Laboratory used the methylene blue reduction test which indicates the keeping quality of milk by the time taken to reduce methylene blue under defined conditions.

PHOSPHATASE TEST.

This test is officially applied to pasteurised milk in order to determine whether the milk has been satisfactorily heat-treated.

Condemnation Certificates were issued in respect of the following foods:-

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Imported Meat..... | 130 lbs. |
| Tinned Meat..... | 410 lbs. |
| <u>Other foods</u> | |
| Tinned..... | 230 tins. |
| Fish..... | 42 lbs. |

SECTION G

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Regional Hospital Board arranged for a Mass Radiography unit to operate in Wimborne during March.

| | <u>Men</u> | <u>Women</u> | <u>Children</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Total number X-rayed..... | 510 | 562 | 197 | 1269 |
| Number re-called for large films. | 37 | 42 | 5 | 84 |
| Number referred to Chest Clinic.. (probably tuberculosis)..... | - | 4 | - | 4 |
| Number referred to hospital or doctor for other conditions... | 2 | 6 | - | 8 |

The results of this survey appear satisfactory. It would have been even better if a greater number had attended.

SECTION HPREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASESInfectious Diseases notified during the year.

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| Whooping Cough..... | 8 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia..... | 1 |
| Measles..... | 86 |
| Dysentery..... | 3 |
| Acute Pneumonia..... | 6 |
| Erysipelas..... | 1 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis..... | 1 |

TUBERCULOSIS

Number on the Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1951 :-

| <u>Pulmonary</u> | | <u>Non-Pulmonary</u> | |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> |
| 8 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| <u>Total....18</u> | | | |

There were four new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year and three cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis transferred into the district.

Few cases of Infectious Diseases have been notified during the year. A mild epidemic of measles occurred. The case of paralytic poliomyelitis made a very good recovery.

There has been no outbreak of food poisoning during the year.

DISINFECTION

Room disinfection was carried out by the Sanitary Inspector on two occasions.

YEARSAGE INCIDENCE

| <u>Whooping</u> | <u>Puerperal</u> | <u>Measles</u> | <u>Dysentery</u> | <u>Acute</u> | <u>Erysipelas</u> | <u>Acute</u> |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| <u>Cough.</u> | <u>Pyrexia.</u> | | | <u>Pneumonia</u> | | <u>Polionyelitis</u> |

1 - 2

4

17

3 - 4

1

23

1

5 - 9

3

44

1

1

10-14

2

15-24

1

25 and
over

1

1

5

1

